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Air Resources Board

Alan C. Lloyd, Ph.D.
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Gray Davis
Governor

August 15, 2002

Proposed Amendment to the Definition of "Alternative Fuel" In Transit Bus Fleet Rule

Dear California Transit Agencies and California Transit Association:

Staff invites you to participate in a conference call with the Air Resources Board (ARB) to discuss the proposed modification of the definition of "alternative fuel" and its impact on the Transit Bus Fleet Rule. The proposed definition change is as follows:

"Alternative fuel" means natural gas, propane, ethanol, methanol, electricity, fuel cells, or advanced technologies that do not rely on diesel fuel except as a pilot ignition source at an average ratio of less than 1 part diesel fuel to 10 parts fuel. Alternative fuel also means any of these fuels used in combination with each other or in combination with other non-diesel fuels. Urban bus engines operating on alternative fuel may not have the capability to idle or operate solely on diesel fuel at any time.

Staff proposes to recommend this change along with the upcoming amendments to the fleet rule. Because of the limited time available prior to the ARB Board hearing in October 2002, staff is scheduling this conference call to provide all interested parties with an opportunity to offer comments and ask questions on the revised definition.

The conference call will be held on Thursday, August 22, 2002, from 1:00-2:00 PM. The phone number and passcode for the conference call are as follows:

Phone: (888) 452-0455
Passcode: 25008

In order to assist staff in obtaining enough conference call lines, if you plan to call in please respond by August 20, 2002 to Juan Osborn, Staff Air Pollution Specialist, at (626) 575-6998, or send your email to josborn@arb.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/

Michael P. Kenny
Executive Officer

The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption. For a list of simple ways you can reduce demand and cut your energy costs, see our Website: <http://www.arb.ca.gov>.

California Environmental Protection Agency